2008 APPROVED WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE for the LAND GRANT COMMITTEE

Members

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Sen. Bernadette M. Sanchez

Sen. William E. Sharer

Rep. Eric A. Youngberg

History

The land grant committee was originally created by statute for the 2003 interim and has been renewed each year as a legislative council-created committee since 2004.

Approved Work Plan

The land grant committee proposes to consider the following issues and topics during the 2008 interim and develop appropriate legislation for the 2009 legislative session:

- 1. consider legislation creating a single state agency to deal with community land grant issues on an ongoing basis and act as a liaison between community land grants and local, state and federal government agencies; review operation of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo division of the office of the attorney general and request funding of the division as part of the base budget of the office of the attorney general; and hear the attorney general's response to the 2004 U.S. government accountability office report on community land grants;
- 2. examine the implications of granting political subdivision status to community land grants, including: state auditor requirements for auditing of community land grants; department of finance and administration procedures for evaluating and approving \$200,000 in capital outlay appropriations to community land grants; allowing the purchase of insurance from the risk management division of the general services department by boards of trustees; consider amendments to election procedures for boards of trustees; request the Rio Puerco office of the federal bureau of land management (BLM) to work with land grants that are political subdivisions on transfers of property slated for disposal by the BLM; and consider whether or not to make the town of Atrisco land grant a political subdivision of the state;
- 3. consider amendments to statutes governing delinquent tax sales of land located

within boundaries of community land grants; review title abstracts by the state commission of public records on state-owned property located within the historic boundaries of community land grants; receive an update on the establishment of a land grant studies program at the university of New Mexico and consider continued funding of the program; follow up on transfer of department of game and fish property to Abiquiu; review a big-game proposal from department of game and fish; review the open-gate program of department of game and fish; receive a report on the Bill Humphries wildlife area from the department of game and fish; invite the energy, minerals and natural resources department to address ownership of former land grant property; and determine the need to ask the U.S. forest service to permit more firewood gathering in national forests; and

4. consider a proposal to allow conservation easements on the common lands of community land grants.

Approved Meeting Schedule

DateLocationJune 18Santa FeJuly 10-11Carnuel

August 14-15 El Rito/Abiquiu September 29-30 UNM, Albuquerque

October 31 Santa Fe